

**EWG M2 Recommendation to the ICH Steering Committee**  
**Electronic Standards for the Transfer of Regulatory Information (ESTRI)**  
**Secure EDI over the Internet (SMTP/MIME)**  
**Recommendation 4.1** Ver 1.4 5 March, 1997

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**Title:** Secure EDI Transmissions over the Internet (SMTP/MIME)

**Date:** 5 March 1997

**Background:**

It is recognized that there is need for secure EDI among the three ICH regions. Recent advances in encryption technology make secure transfer over the Internet possible.

**Recommendation:**

The Expert Working Group is recommending the use of commercial products that comply with the following functionality requirements and standards for successful deployment of secure EDI over the Internet:

- Provide
  - secure EDI over the Internet (SMTP/MIME), without use of a VAN
  - digital signatures for authentication, data integrity, and non-repudiation
  - compliance with applicable laws, e.g. 40 bits encryption in the US
  - key management, EDI tracking, and trading partner profile/agreement facilities
- Support
  - the transport in English and other EU languages, and Japanese characters (ISO 2022-JP)
  - the transport of EDI messages, text messages and binary files
- Comply with
  - security enveloping using S/MIME
  - X.509 certificate standard
  - MIME data content specifications - RFC 1767

**Conditions:**

- Reference guidelines for the appropriate technical and procedural use of identified products must be developed and made available to assist its installation and use.

**Remarks:**

After a market survey in all three regions, the Expert Working Group was able to identify only a single commercial product, Templar from Premenos, with the required functionality. As a consequence, this product was evaluated and shown to meet all requirements in a three region test.

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Templar is a software application that operates between the EDI translator and the mail system. It is an integrated solution that complies with the following standards:

- International RC2, International RC4 (40 bit key symmetric encryption standard),
- DES and RSA encryption algorithms and PKCS#7 for public key cryptography,
- EDIFACT AUTACK Acknowledgment for Non-Repudiation of receipt.

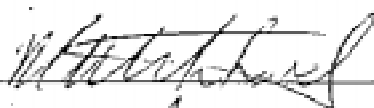


Although Templar is a commercially available off-the-shelf product, it is a relatively low cost (about 1.000 USD for a PC or 25.000 USD for UNIX server installation) solution that can meet the needs of small and large organizations

The product was evaluated using a peer-to-peer certification model. The use of a public key infrastructure and a certification authority remains to be tested.

**Topic Leader:**

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